Creation of more States

4658. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Miniser of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the reconstruction of the States;

(b) whether some States are proposed to be created;

(c) if so, the steps taken in that direction; and

(d) the details of the proposal before Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) The Government has approved, in principle, the proposals for the creation of new States of Uttaranchal, Vananchal and Chhattisgarh. The Govenrment has also decided that the Union Territory of Delhi be granted full Statehood except for National Capital Territory which will be administered by the Central Govenrment. Further necessary action in the matter is being taken. A proposal to grant Statehood to the Union Territory of Pondicherry is also under consideration.

Grants by Ford Foundation

4659. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Miniser of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ford Foundation give grants to organisations and individuals in India; and

(b) if so, the names and addresses of the recipients of such grants year-wise, alongwith purpose and the amounts of grant during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) The Ford Foundation extends grant assistance mainly to non-governmental organisations, research institutions, Govenrment agencies and Universities in areas of agriculture and rural development, health and population, planning and management, education and culture etc.

(b) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the table of the House.

Digital Trunked Radio System for Delhi Police

4660. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:
SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV:

Will the Miniser of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 109 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd June, 1998, and state:

(a) whether the proposal to purchase UHF Digital Trunked Radio System for Delhi Police has since been considered;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when the proposal will be decided;

(c) whether the present Radio System being used by Delhi Police has failed several times recently and if so, the reasons for its breakdown; and

(d) whether the failure of old system led to several crimes during the last three months, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The proposal to purchase UHF Digital Trunked Radio System for Delhi Police is in the advanced stage of finalisation.

(c) No, Sir. Delhi Police have confirmed that their existing Radio System did not fail or bread-down in recent months.

(d) Does not arise.

Article 355

4661. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Miniser of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2354 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th July, 1998, and state: